# THETOWER

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



**Gardening with Pastor Darren** 

St. Paul kids spent some time with Pastor Darren, planting flowers to take home with them during a recent Wesley Night Kids Club!



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#### **NEXT TOWER DEADLINE!**

May19, 2022 at 5:00pm

Submit articles and/or pictures to Sara Ferebee at <a href="mailto:sara@stpaulchurchky.org">sara@stpaulchurchky.org</a>.

#### **DEATHS SINCE ALL SAINTS DAY 2021**

Carter Reynolds - November 18, 2021
Tom Follacchio - November 18, 2021
David Doyle - November 24, 2021
John Robert "Bob" Lewis - November 30, 2021
J.T. Johnston - December 10, 2021
Glenn A. McCoy - December 12, 2021
Dorothy "Dot" Kitchen - January 16, 2022
Harold Fischer - January 19, 2022
Debi Huff - January 19, 2022
Ben Wadler - February 18, 2022
Betty Atcher - April 18, 2022

#### **MEMORIALS**

In memory of Harold Fisher by Fisher and Maddox Families

### Altar Flowers

We are currently accepting sponsors for altar flowers for the 11am service. Please contact B.J. Fore (Betty. jo.fore@gmail.com or 502 458-2702) if you would like



to sponsor the arrangements in honor of or in memory of someone. Cost is generally \$90 plus, depending upon the type of flowers ordered.

#### **STAY CONNECTED!**



WEBSITE: The St. Paul website is our communications hub! To keep up with all the St. Paul news and activities, visit StPaulChurchKY.org. Bookmark it!





Connect with St. Paul Church on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Prayer Requests: Send prayer requests or sign up to receive the Prayer Chain by emailing prayer@ stpaulchurchky.org or by filling out the form at the St. Paul website. The Prayer Chain is emailed throughout the week as prayer requests are received.



#### St. Paul Weekly Email - Stay informed!



Stay informed about the news and happenings at St. Paul. Subscribe at our website or email info@stpaulchurchky.org.



#### Pastor Darren's Weekly Phone Message



Each Wednesday, Pastor Darren sends an uplifting phone message. To receive these calls, email info@stpaulchurchky.org or leave a message at 502-459-1595.

**Worship Recordings:** Our Sunday morning worship service is video-recorded. Find the recordings at **StPaulChurchKY.org/sermons**, or follow the link under **Recorded Worship Services!** 

#### **YOUTH FUTURES**

#### Janet and Billy Sewell, Co-Directors of Youth Ministry

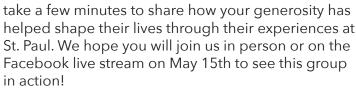
It is hard to believe that it is May and the school year is almost over! This time of year always prompts reflection on how far we've come since the previous August. In a recent meeting we were talking about a service project that got canceled right before the school year started due to the Delta variant and we were all surprised at how long ago that seemed. Despite that initial setback we managed to kick off the school year in person, albeit with some safety modifications.

During this past school year we have had the privilege of watching these students grow closer with God and with each other. We were able to go on our first retreat since 2019. If you ask any of our students where they feel closest to God, they will almost all tell you Loucon. Being able to take them back there to grow in their faith was a top priority for this school year. We were also able to have our annual Progressive Dinner for the first time in two years. Five families hosted our students in their homes and at church to allow them to all fellowship together. While these are two of our larger events for the fall semester we have been able to safely host many other events for the students such as a lock-in and the upcoming senior banquet.

Another top priority for this school year was to ensure that these students got to experience the annual Fusion trip after a two year hiatus. We realized that over half of our group has never had the opportunity to attend! The Fusion trip is our annual trip that combines a mission trip and a choir tour. We typically lead worship at a church on Sunday then do mission work throughout the week that could consist of cooking, painting, singing, etc. In the past the students have gotten to work in areas such as Detroit, Chicago, Philadelphia, and even Belize! This year we will be working in Perry, GA (outside Atlanta) and Nashville, TN. One of the main ways you can support these amazing students in their endeavors is by giving to Youth Futures.

Youth Futures Sunday is May 15th and is the only fundraiser we do for the year. St. Paul Youth will not ask you to attend their chili cook-offs or car washes to raise money. Instead we do a single annual

fundraising campaign. On this Sunday, our students will lead both services and our seniors will



To give to Youth Futures you can go to stpaulchurchky.org/giving and "click here to give online" or scan the QR code with your camera phone for quick access. From there you can set up a one-time gift or a recurring gift. Please remember to select "Youth Futures" as the fund! You can also



write a check with the memo line "Youth Futures."

We would like to extend an additional thank you to our St. Paul family for your generous monetary donations and prayerful support. Our youth program was able to weather the storm of the pandemic through the love and contributions from the congregation. We are grateful for the resources afforded to us by the congregation to offer weekly programming to around 25 7th-12th grade students on Sunday evenings. These youth are incredible and we are so proud of the resilience and growth that they have exhibited over the last two years. It has been an unspeakable pleasure watching these youth shine God's light for all to see over the last decade of volunteering with St. Paul Youth. Our admiration for these youth has only grown in our first full year of leading the program. We eagerly look forward to what the next year will bring.



#### St. Paul UMC Personnel Committee Update - 4/27/22

The Personnel Committee is pleased to share the following updates related to staffing:

- The Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church has reappointed both Senior Pastor Darren Brandon and Associate Pastor Dustin Woods to St. Paul for the coming year. They are eager to continue the work of discipleship as we all strive to Invite, Encourage and Connect - our theme for worship and ministry this year.
- St. Paul currently has three open staff positions that we expect to post by mid-May:
  - o Family and Children's Director (full-time)
  - o Administrative Assistant (part-time)
  - o Finance Director (part-time)

Thank you to Pastors Darren and Dustin, along with staff, who have found creative solutions to manage the transition in Children's Ministry leadership following Tori's departure. Plans are in place to cover weekly ministry, including several events that can be combined with the youth ministry. In the meantime, the Children's Ministry team, along with the Personnel Committee, will work together to discuss the overall ministry plan and post the position.

Following input from staff and church leadership, we are finalizing job descriptions for the Administrative Assistant and Finance Director positions, both of which will be part-time.

All three positions are critical to St. Paul's ministry and support of both the congregation and community. We look forward to having these posted soon with a thorough and efficient search process to fill each role. Updates on the search process will be provided through the Tower and weekly updates. Please contact Pastor Darren (darren@stpaulchurchky.org) or Julie Roberts (julieroberts1219@gmail.com) with any questions in the meantime.

#### First Quarter Financial Statement

Our First Quarter Financial Statement will be mailed to all current contributors, along with their quarterly giving statements. If you are interested in reviewing the First Quarter Financial Statement, you may pick one up at the Information Center on the second floor near the main church office.

## New Member and Visitor Breakfast Sunday, May 22 • 10:00-10:45am

McAdams Hall (Room 120)



Join us for this friendly, informative breakfast!

- Enjoy breakfast while getting to know others
  - Meet representatives from key St. Paul ministry areas
- Ask questions about St. Paul and its ministries

Questions? Contact Rev. Dustin Woods at dustin@stpaulchurchky.org.



#### **Staff Spotlight:**

### Dr. Lori Elbert, Director of Koinonia Worship



If you had asked me 21 years ago if I thought I would still be on staff at St Paul today, I would have thought you were crazy; no one stays in a ministry position that long. But here I am, all these years later, still here; deeply rooted in our church and inspired to do ministry alongside this part of the body of Christ and the amazing staff and pastors we have here.

I originally came to St Paul as a member in 1997 because my best friend and roommate Karla Temple was here and invited me to come sing with the choir after I left my last ministry position. St Paul became my church family and loved and nurtured me. In 2001, my church family rejoiced with me as I married my husband in our then newly renovated sanctuary.

In June of that same year, I came on staff to be the director of our newly opened Family Life Center and play in the band at Koinonia. Over the years my job has morphed to align with the changes in my personal life and the needs of the church. In 2006, I stepped down to part time with responsibilities only in the 9:00 worship service as I finished my doctoral program and prepared to welcome our first children, Nina and Gideon, home. Since that time I have been planning and leading the Koinonia service.



My other responsibilities include supporting the worship and music ministries across our church. Sometimes that means filling in to lead rehearsals for Karla or Jim or helping to plan special events and

services. I lead the youth band and youth worship on Sunday nights. I also oversee the audio and video technology for the church. Most recently that has included getting our streaming ministry off the ground and running the stream each week for the traditional service. My two favorite weeks of the year



are Music Camp, which I get to help lead with Karla Temple, and Boar's Head, for which I have done a little bit of everything from being in the choir, to being a stand-in Woodsman, to running tech.

Over the years my family has grown as well. My husband Bruce and I have 4 children from 31 down to 9, and our granddaughter who is 12. We enjoy hiking, traveling (especially to Texas to see my family) and anything involving water. I love to read, write, and compose - although my busy schedule doesn't allow for much of those last two. But you will hear some of my songs and words around St Paul from time to time.

What a blessing it has been to me to be able to stay at one ministry position so long; to get to put down deep roots and make connections with our church family over the years. I could not have planned it, but in looking back, I wouldn't have it any other way.

# May Mission Focus: Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry Youth Fusion Trip Mission

Our youth group will be ministering in Nashville, TN, and the Atlanta, GA area this summer for their annual Fusion Trip.
Our May Mission Focus will be collecting items for Loaves and Fishes food pantry in Perry, GA, where the youth will spend some time organizing and helping out.

St. Paul is collecting the following items to help stock the pantry:

Toothbrushes
Toothpaste, trial size and regular size
Deodorant
Shampoo and conditioner (small size)
Body wash (small size)
Razors

Donation bins will be available in the lobbies of both buildings on the St. Paul campus. Drop off your donations on Sunday mornings or during office hours, Monday-Wednesday from 10:00am-1:00pm.

## Scout Troop 40 Anniversary Party! Saturday, May 21 from 1:00-5:00pm

Troop 40 is celebrating 100 years as an active troop on Saturday May 21. Please stop by between 1:00 and 5:00 in the gym to see artifacts and photos from our long history. Have a hot dog! Challenge yourself to tie knots! Former scouts and scout leaders will find lots of memories. Everyone is welcome, and please pass the news to others.



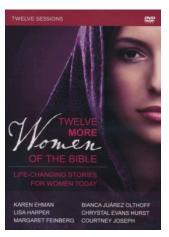




#### Summer Bible Study for Women!

All women are invited to the summer Bible study *Twelve More Women of the Bible*. This 12-week, dvd-based study will be one that you can drop in and out of, depending on your summer schedule. We meet from 10:00-11:30 in Room 113, starting June 1. Each week will feature a short video about women from the Old and New Testaments, the lessons she teaches, and a group discussion. We'll look at Deborah, Anna, Esther, Mary and Martha, and more. The books are \$10.00. Sign up at the church office or contact Gail Henson (648-2201) or <a href="mailto:grhenson@gmail.com">grhenson@gmail.com</a>.

If you are looking for a welcoming small group for all or part of the time, we hope you'll join us. We share joys, prayer concerns, and offer mutual support in addition to studying God's word. Hope to see you!



#### Empty Bowls Hunger Benefit Sunday, May 15, 4-7pm

Highlands Community Campus Home of HCM's Food Pantry 1228 E. Breckinridge @ Barret Ave.

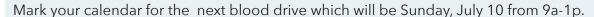
Enjoy tastings of a variety of Soups and Chilis and vote for your favorite! Enjoy live music by This, That the Other Band.

HCM will accept donations of canned soups to help stock their food pantry.

Tickets include bread, fruit, dessert, and a beverage of iced tea, lemonade, or water. Tickets available at the HCM website: <a href="https://connect.clickandpledge.com/w/Form/3f4b1c64-8094-479e-980f-2e109e06f00d">https://connect.clickandpledge.com/w/Form/3f4b1c64-8094-479e-980f-2e109e06f00d</a> Cost: Adults 18 and over - \$25; Teenagers 13-17 - \$10; Kids 6-12 - \$5; Munchkins 5 and under - Free!

#### **Blood Drive Report**

Thanks to all who heeded the call to donate blood on Palm Sunday, April 10. During the week leading up to the Red Cross drive, we only had nine donors signed up. We ended up with 17 donors, one shy of our goal. A big thanks to Debby Bloyd for assisting in the sign-in.



B positive! Ruth Ann Whitehouse



Highlands

Community

Campus

Highlands Community Ministries

Soup and Chili Cook-off, Picnic-style!

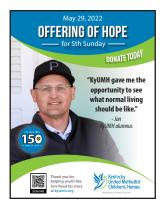
Empty Bowls

Hunger Benefit 25th Anniversary

#### Fifth Sunday Offering for Kentucky United Methodist Children's Home

Sunday, May 29

Your financial support for the May 29th Offering of Hope for 5th Sunday is deeply appreciated. Your gifts provide for the daily needs of our youth! If you have never participated in the 5th Sunday Offering before, please consider making a gift in honor of our 150th birthday!



- » You can mail a check to 1115 Ashgrove Road, Nicholasville KY 40356
- » You can give via credit card or direct bank transfer at <u>kyumh.org/donate</u>
- » You can give by texting "5thsunday" to (855) 735-2437

## Wesley Night Wednesday evenings!

#### **CHILDREN**

- Children's choirs include:

Sunday, May 15

4-7 pm

- -- Music Milestones for ages 3-5 at 6:00pm
- -- Joyful Song for grades 1-3 at 7:00pm
- -- Wesleyan Choir for grades 4-6 at 7:00pm.
- **Kids Club** (grades 1-6): 6:30-7:00pm (309)

#### YOUTH

-Youth Jam and Hangout from 6:30pm-8:00pm in the Youth Center.

#### **ADULTS**

Our Wesley Night adult study continues from 7:00-8:00pm in McAdams Hall

**MEAL** - Wesley night meals are back! Please register by Tuesday at 1:00pm at www.stpaulchurchky.org/ministries/wesley-night/ or by calling the church office at 459-1595.

We hope to see you at Wesley Night!

## Youth News!

#### **Senior Sunday**

Class of 2022 and families, it is almost the end of the school year, which means we want to celebrate your students! May 22nd will be Senior Sunday. We will honor our students during the services, then have a banquet in their honor that evening. If you or your student plan to participate, please fill out this form by April 17th: https://bit.ly/3KY34aN

St.P YOUTH

#### **Confirmation Sunday is May 1st!**

Please be in prayer for this year's confirmands.

Madeleine Alt • Isaiah Chambers
Griffin Kalmbach • Patrick McFarland • Maci Voigt

#### **Camp Loucon!**

St. Paul will again be paying half of campers' regular tuition for Camp Loucon this summer. When you register your student you will pay the deposit then send the confirmation/receipt to youth@ stpaulchurchky.org. This will allow us to contact Loucon directly to pay half for those students. You will then be responsible for half the cost of tuition minus the deposit that you already paid.

#### **Fusion Trip is on for 2022!**

We are so excited to take our group to the Atlanta and Nashville areas! We will be leaving Saturday morning June 4th and returning Wednesday night June 8th. As of now we plan to sing at Perry UMC, Perry, GA, visit the Center for Civil and Human Rights, and serve with The Bridge Nashville. There is still more in the works! We need to know how many students to plan on so we can give these organizations a better idea of numbers. Please fill out the following form if you plan to attend Fusion 2022. More info to come! Fusion Registration Form: https://forms.gle/9CyywtQPbG3gq4BC7

#### Spring/Summer Schedule:

May 1 - Regular Youth

May 8 - No Youth Group (Mother's Day)

May 15 - Regular Youth

May 22 - Senior Banquet

June 4 - 8 Fusion Trip

June 16 (Thurs) Climb NULU

June 26 (Sun) potential service project TBD

June 30 (Thurs) Putt Putt

July 10 (Sun) Holiday World

July 28 (Thurs) Service Project TBD

July 31 (Sun) Bats game

August 14 (Sun) Back to School Bash

Schedule subject to change. Sign up for the Youth email, check the Youth social media channels, or keep an eye on the St. Paul website to stay informed.

#### Weekly schedule:

Sunday mornings: 10:00-10:45 - Service Projects Sunday evenings: 6:00-6:30 - Meal;

6:30-7:00 - Group activity; 7:00-8:00pm - Group worship with lesson and small group time. Please remember to bring your refillable water bottle and Bible every week!

**Wednesday evenings:** 6:30-8:00pm - Youth Jam & Hang-out

To stay up-to-date on Youth events, please:

- subscribe to our mailing list - at the bottom of the St. Paul Youth webpage:

www.stpaulchurchky.org/youth/

- join the St. Paul Youth Facebook Group
- follow @stp\_youth\_group on Instagram
- follow @stpaulumc\_youth on Twitter

Watch for details of the Youth Choir Concert in the weekly email and St. Paul website.





We have learning opportunities for youth and children on Sunday mornings. Our youth gather for a service project each week at 10:00am. Children's Sunday school happens from 10-10:45am on the third floor of the main building. Bruce Elbert teaches 4th-6th graders (room 310) and Lori Brandon and Emily Woods are teaching K-3rd graders (309).



## Children's Choir Spring Program

May 18 at 7pm - Gym

Everyone is invited to come celebrate our Children's Choirs as they present music and activities they have learned throughout this year. They will also receive their end of year awards for their accomplishments and commitment. Join us for an exciting evening of music together!

Don't forget to RSVP for Wesley Night dinner! Fill out the form at our website or scan this code with your smartphone camera >>>>



#### SAVE THE DATES FOR 2022 CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUMMER ACTIVITIES

YOUTH FUSION TRIP
June 4-8 - See details on page 10

#### **MUSIC CAMP**

July 11-15 | Performances on Sunday, July 17

All kids entering grades 2-7 are invited to this unforgettable week of music and fun!

#### **CAMP LOUCON SIGN-UPS**

St. Paul will pay half of your child's summer camp registration cost! Register at <a href="www.loucon.org">www.loucon.org</a> under Tier 2, and then email your statement to <a href="www.toucon.org">youth@stpaulchurchky.org</a>.

#### **BACK TO SCHOOL BASH | August 14**

Keep an eye on the St. Paul website and weekly emails for updates as the date approaches.

Save the date for these

# Family-Friendly Summer Events!

Thursday, June 16: Climb NULU

Thursday, June 30: Putt Putt

Sunday, July 31: Bats Game

#### Summer Picnic on the Lawn

Stay tuned! Date TBD. Fun activities for all!

Watch for more details on all of these events in future editions of the Tower, the St. Paul website, and the weekly email.

# Vision Team Goal #6: The Resource Center

The Resource Center is St. Paul's primary outreach to the Louisville community.

By 2024, the goal for the Resource Center is to be operating and staffed by volunteers to serve 300 people monthly, as well as have a dedicated staff person.

Over the past two years, the Resource Center staff and volunteers have shown resilience by creating alternative ways to continue to serve those in need during the pandemic. Hence, the Mobile Resource Center idea was born. This partnership with Fourth Ave UMC's Open Door Community Ministry has been a success and is now an integral part of St. Paul's outreach efforts! Sara Ferebee, Bob Helvey, and a group of dedicated volunteers currently work to gather and organize supplies.



On the second Saturday of every month, volunteers pack up the supplies and head down to Fourth Ave UMC to serve those in need. Each month, they serve anywhere from 50-

90 people. This continues to be a great opportunity to reach 'beyond the walls' of St. Paul and have a positive impact on our community. Fourth Ave UMC has a small but mighty congregation that works hard to sustain their outreach to the downtown/ Old Louisville unhoused, transient, and low-income community. St. Paul wants to do all we can to grow this partnership and support this important work.

The Resource Center also continues to serve those who come to the church doors in need of

assistance on Mondays and Wednesdays, as well as supporting other local organizations such as Highlands Community Ministries and Portland Food Pantry.



Are you ready to get involved? Here are some options:

#### **Donate**

Financial donations are needed and can be made by mailing a check to St. Paul UMC, designating Resource Center in the memo line, or by donating online at St. Paul's secure Giving webpage: https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/giving/

Physical donations, such as new underwear, socks, toiletries, and more, can be purchased and brought to one of the labeled bins in the Family Life Center or main church building lobbies. With the onset of the warmer months comes an increased need for new or gently-used t-shirts, shorts, baseball caps, sunscreen, and insect repellent.

We also have online wish lists at Amazon and Dollar Days, which can be found here: <a href="https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/the-resource-center/">https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/the-resource-center/</a>
The wish list donations will be delivered directly to St. Paul, making it a super simple way to help out!

#### Volunteer

Volunteers are needed on the second Saturday of every month to help at the Mobile Resource Center. We need a few volunteers to help load the bus at 10:30am, then those volunteers meet up with more volunteers at Fourth Ave UMC. May 14th from 11:00am-1:00pm is the next opportunity.

You can sign up here: <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084ea4a62ba6fe3-mobile">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084ea4a62ba6fe3-mobile</a>

If you have questions or would like more information about the Resource Center you can contact Sara Ferebee at <a href="mailto:sara@stpaulchurchky.org">sara@stpaulchurchky.org</a> or Bob Helvey at <a href="mailto:bob@stpaulchurchky.org">bob@stpaulchurchky.org</a>.

For questions or comments regarding this goal, please reach out to Anna Twyman at <a href="mailto:atwyman34@gmail.com">atwyman34@gmail.com</a>.

#### **Volunteer Interest Form: How Would You Like to Serve?**

The Vision Team is asked to identify the many ways members volunteer and to track or document it. Where are you serving? Where would you like to serve? Please let us know!

Name	Email	Phone
Currently I volunteer ways of communications: I help out with West I provide transport. The Boar's Head feed to the Volunteer of the Congregation of the Con	wal Team ship Team ir isher, greeter, sound prayer beads, retreats Smoketown Wellness, Portland ner re: calling people, visiting them, eavement, life events nteer, teach Sunday School n Sunday nights, drive for Youth Lock ins, Be a Friend In Faith, e Center ice issues n's organizations helping  soluted Twice, Blood drives nd connect families cipate in a Sunday School help with The Tower & other ating ries Coke-St Paul ministry n Office doing esentative on a Board or erals ley night ation for people	I would like to participate in these.  Please have someone contact me.  The Trustees (building, insurance)  Personnel  Finance & Stewardship Team  The Vision Team  The Strategic Renewal Team  Participate in a choir or music group  Help with worship: liturgist, usher, sound  Spiritual formation-prayer beads, retreats  Resilience Ministry: Smoketown Wellness, Portland Promise Center  Congregational Care: calling people, visiting them, Sending cards, bereavement, life events  Serving on an activities/social committee  Children: VBS, Sunday School  Youth: Volunteer on Sunday nights, drive for Youth events, Lock Ins, Friend in Faith, Service,  Environmental Justice issues  The Security Team  Support for Women's organizations helping trafficked women.  I'd like to participate in a Bible Study  Help with Resource Center  Help with Refugees  Help with Habitat House  Beyond the Walls-justice issues  Health & Wellness-Touched Twice, Blood drives  Families: nurture and connect families  Discipleship—Sunday School, faith groups  Communications: I'd be glad to help with publicity, The Tower, or other forms of communication  I'd like to get involved with Senior activities  I'd like to get involved in racial/ethnic justice issues  I would like to help in the Church Office  I'd like to help in the library  I would like to help in the Pourse, HCM)  I would like to help with Social events!  I'd like to help with the Boar's Head Festival  I'd be glad to provide transportation as needed.
Return to office or Gail Henson grhenson@gmail.com		Other things not on the list:

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2000 DOUGLASS BLVD LOUISVILLE, KY 40205 502-459-1595 WWW.STPAULCHURCHKY.ORG

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